

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.
 TOPIC Reconnaissance Battalion of the Halle KVP Division

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 5 March 1954REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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1. The reconnaissance battalion of the Halle KVP Bereitschaft, which was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Meinicke (fnu), had the designation "S 1-Abteilung" and was quartered in the barracks installation of the former German Armed Forces on Paracelsus Strasse in Halle. 1
2. The headquarters numbered 10 officers; the supply platoon 1 NCO and 5 EM; the maintenance platoon 5 EM; the chemical defense squad 1 NCO and 8 EM; and the headquarters platoon, which was subordinate to the 1st Co as to administration and training, numbered 1 NCO and 9 EM. The 1st (Motorcycle) Co had 4 officers, 10 NCOs and 40 EM; and the 2d (Armored Personnel Carrier) Co had 5 officers, 10 NCOs and 21 EM. 2
3. Officers of the unit included Captain Gluese (fnu), commander; Senior Lieutenant Zweitow (fnu), chief of staff; Senior Lieutenant Kramer (fnu), deputy for supply; Lieutenant Medler (fnu), leader of the 1st Co; and Lieutenant Wolter (fnu), leader of the 2d Co. Wolter was promoted to this rank on 21 December 1953.
4. The motor vehicles of the battalion included 3 H-3-A trucks, which belonged to the supply platoon; 9 Soviet-made 750-cubic cm motorcycles with sidecars, which belonged to the headquarters platoon; 28 Soviet-made 750-cubic cm motorcycles with sidecars, which belonged to the 1st Co; and 10 Soviet model M-3 armored personnel carriers, which belonged to the 2d Co. Except for the 3 H-3-A trucks all motor vehicles which arrived by train in late November 1953, were factory new The motorcycles and armored personnel carriers were still jacked up. 3 25X1
5. Five percent of the soldiers of the unit belonged to the 1936 class; 40 percent to the 1935 class; 40 percent to the 1933 class; and 15 percent to older classes.
6. Ninety-five percent of the men had served less than three years and 5 percent had served three to five years.
7. Thirty percent of the soldiers came from Saxony/Anhalt; 10 percent from Saxony; 10 percent from Thuringia; 10 percent from Mecklenburg; 10 percent from Brandenburg; and 30 percent from Berlin.

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8. The installation of Dienststelle Halle III quartered the S 1-Abteilung, the headquarters of the Bereitschaft, the D 1-Abteilung, the S 5-Abteilung, the motor transport battalion, and the supply company. 4

- 25X1 1. [] Comment. A previous report [] indicated that Colonel 25X1
Voigt (fnu), commanded the Halle Division prior to early December 1953.
- 25X1 2. [] Comment. The actual strength of the unit is about 40 percent of the
war strength of the reconnaissance battalion of a Soviet infantry division.
- 25X1 3. [] Comment. The
Motorcycles and armored personnel carriers were recently
shipped from the USSR via Granienburg.
- 25X1 25X1 4. [] Comment. [] the AAA battalion (S-5)
was in the Artillerie Kaserne on Stalin Allee in late November 1953.